

**FIRST ANNUAL
 VOLUNTEER CHAPTER ABPA
 CONFERENCE
 UPDATE**

The above conference scheduled for August 13-15 at the Holiday Inn, Briley Parkway, Nashville, TN has been **POSTPONED** until a later date. Please watch the newsletter and mailings for the new time and place. We are sorry if this has inconvenienced anyone. We will be looking forward to seeing all of you at the rescheduled conference. Please call Dawn Duckett (615) 594-7679 if you have any questions.

Volunteer Chapter ABPA News

Volunteer Chapter ABPA
 P. o. Box 5
 Gatlinburg, TN 37738



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❖ **Volunteer Chapter ABPA News** ❖

President's Corner

ABPA presented it's "Strategic Plan" and Mission Statement at the 11th Annual International Conference in Spokane, WA. The Strategic Plan was formulated by the Board of Directors and was unanimously approved by the Board and the Association Membership. The Mission Statement and Strategic Plan is the key to effectively directing the Association into the future by the setting of priorities and goals that reflect the general views of the membership. This represents a giant step forward for the Association and shows a willingness to find a common ground that we can all work toward.

The key areas of the Strategic Plan are as follows:

- Involvement in Other Organizations*
- Organization*
- Public Awareness/Education*
- Membership Needs*
- Standard Practices.*

The Mission Statement is:
 "The American Backflow Prevention Association, an international organization, was founded in 1984 to involve all people in protecting public health by protecting the drinking water through cross connection control and backflow prevention. The American Backflow Prevention Association, through it's Regions and local Chapters, is committed to providing educational programs, technical assistance, and public awareness in the field of backflow prevention to all water consumers today, and into the 20th Century and beyond."

Details of the Strategic Plan and Mission Statement will be published at a later date in this newsletter

(Submitted by Dale Phelps, City of Gatlinburg, Gatlinburg, TN)



IMPORTANT DATE

The Volunteer Chapter ABPA will meet Monday, August 14, 1995, at 1:00 P.M. at the Fleming Training Center, 2022 Blanton Drive, Murfreesboro, TN. Please call Dale Phelps, (615) 436-4681 if you have questions.

See You There!

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Information

Inspect or Nuisance!

Q uite often, I have visited a place where I was specifically instructed **not to go around that corner, or not to open that door, or even that spigot doesn't work** (even though there was a hose attached to it). If your inspection of this facility is to determine if there is a need for a protective device **STAND YOUR GROUND !!!!** Politely explain your position to the person in charge of the facility. **DON'T FORGET** to include that if you aren't allowed to visually inspect every water outlet, then you are forced to assume a cross-connection exists and your only recourse is to enforce maximum protection in the form of a Reduced Pressure Backflow Preventer to be installed on their property.

Also, you are in a position to **PROTECT the PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY**, start to finish. So, why not pay a visit to your Filtration Plant once in a while to check the operations of the plant personnel and make a note of how they are using water. Check the feeders to see if there are any possibilities of overfeeding chemicals into the system. This would be a catastrophe.....to contaminate the system from its source.

Make a note of any places you might be hooked up to for a back-up water supply, such as another filtration plant at another Utility District. You might consider installing a Reduced Pressure Backflow Preventer at this point, to halt any unwanted water from seeping into your system during the times you are not drafting from the other source.

(Submitted by Chuck Bean, Cumberland Utility District, Hermitage, TN)

ABPA NEWS

Volunteer Chapter

Published quarterly by the Volunteer Chapter of the American Backflow Prevention Association, whose members have a common interest in protecting the drinking water from contamination through cross-connections. Opinions expressed in articles or letters are not necessarily those supported by the Chapter.

Your ideas and expertise are needed by the Volunteer Chapter ABPA to ensure a balanced approach to solving backflow problems in the State of Tennessee. Your participation will help shape the future of cross connection control across the State by providing support for a unified backflow prevention effort.

Advertisement Rates Per Issue:
 \$20.00 Business Card Size
 Make check payable to Volunteer Chapter ABPA and mail ad copy and payment to Chapter address:
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ABPA annual dues are:
 \$27.00 ABPA National
 10.00 Volunteer Chapter
 \$37.00 Total Annual Dues

Make check payable to ABPA.
 (National membership is required for Chapter membership.)

Mail dues to:
 ABPA
 4381 Hudson Drive
 Stow, OH 44224

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Dale Phelps-----President
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 Don Treesh-----Vice President
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 Tennessee Association of Utility Districts,
 Murfreesboro, TN

EXTRA PROTECTION

In our Water District, we require that a Y-strainer be installed before the backflow preventer, to accumulate debris before it enters into the device.

One of our customers gave this idea much thought. He was familiar with the problems that fine particles of rust, etc. could cause in his backflow preventer. After thinking the problem over, he came up with an idea.....

He decided to install a home filtering system (sedimentation type) between the Y-strainer and the backflow preventer. He felt he would accomplish a superior filtering system and a better guarantee that his backflow preventer would have a better chance to work without the added chance of those fine or extra fine particles reaching the device, thus cutting his cost for repairs. After one year, the double filtering

**GUESS WHAT!!!!
 IT IS WORKING!
THUS PROTECTING THEIR
 FINANCIAL INTEREST!!!!**

system has protected his device, thus cutting his cost.

UPDATE:
 The above article was in a past issue of this Newsletter. In March we returned to test the device and see how this extra filtering system was working.

GUESS WHAT!!!!
 It is working! The owner can visually see that the filter is in need of changing and he is cleaning the filter more often thus protecting his device far better than relying on just the Y-strainer.

Maybe we should give this example some thought. The Manufacturers could develop a visible filter for the backflow application and the customer might flush more frequently, thus protecting their financial interest!!!

(Submitted by Becky Thompson, Madison Suburban Utility, District, Madison, TN)

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

QUESTION:

If you approach a Reduced Pressure Backflow Preventer and you observe the device leaking or dripping:

DO YOU:

- A. Test it.
- or
- B. Assume it is faulty and have the customer repair it.

ANSWER:

A. Test it.
 There could be other reasons for it dripping, other than a fouled check.

It could be wear due to constant line fluctuation, either upstream or downstream.

OR

It could be a nick in the diaphragm (in which case, the device will test, meeting all guidelines).

(Submitted by Becky Thompson, Madison Utility District, Madison, TN)



EAST-MIDDLE -WEST

The Volunteer Chapter voted to divide the State of Tennessee into three divisions. One person was elected to the position of Director for each division. The Directors are more than happy to help you become familiar with the Chapter, help you with any problems that you are having or be a spokesperson for you with the Chapter. **WHATEVER YOUR PROBLEM MAY BE....they are there to help you.**

Maybe you have a new Cross-Connection Program or new to the field, you have questions about certain things or have experienced problems. We all have been there and we understand your position. **YOU HAVE TO REACH OUT.....**give us a call, share your thoughts on the issues at hand, share your solution to problems that you have experienced. You may have a solution that someone has been looking for. Get involved.....we are all working towards a better future for our water supply.

You can contact the Director for your area at the following numbers:

EAST TENNESSEE DIRECTOR
 David Birkholz-(615) 458-2091,
 Loudon Utilities, Loudon, TN.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE DIRECTOR
 Becky Thompson-(615) 868-5400,
 Madison Suburban Utility District,
 Madison, TN.

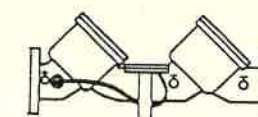
WEST TENNESSEE DIRECTOR
 Jeff Becker,-(901) 422-7214, Jackson Utility District, Jackson, TN.

We look forward to meeting you and helping you in whatever you may need to have a better Cross-Connection Program.

SEE YOU SOON!

(Submitted by Becky Thompson, Madison Suburban Utility District, Madison, TN.)

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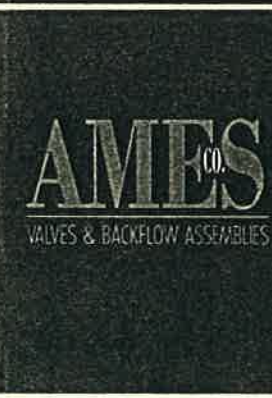
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